

DOCTOR WHO RADIO TIMES SILVER NEMESIS

ORIGINAL BROADCAST – 23 November to 7 December 1988

WHO'S WITH DOCTOR WHO ARTICLE – Issue dated 19-25 November 1988

MY KIND OF DAY ARTICLE – Issue dated 19-25 November 1988

LETTER – Issue dated 26 November to 2 December 1988

THIS WEEK

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Our new weekly star interview

7.35pm

Doctor Who

starring **Sylvester McCoy**
in *Silver Nemesis*

by **KEVIN CLARKE**

Exactly 25 years ago today, the first episode of *Doctor Who* was transmitted, and children have been watching from behind the sofa ever since. Tonight a new adventure begins, the first of a three-part silver anniversary special to celebrate the world's longest-running science-fiction series.

KarlMETIN YENAL

De FloresANTON DIFFRING

Lady Peinforte .FIONA WALKER

Richard.....GERARD MURPHY

Mathematician

LESLEY FRENCH

Jazz quartetCOURTNEY PINE

ADRIAN REID, ERNEST MOTHLE

FRANK TONTOH

The Doctor ...SYLVESTER MCCOY

AceSOPHIE ALDRED

Security manMARTYN READ

Cyber leaderDAVID BANKS

Stunt arranger PAUL HEASMAN

Theme music by RON GRAINER

Theme arrangement/Incidental
music KEFF MCCULLOCH

Costume designer RICHARD CROFT

Script editor ANDREW CARTMEL

Designer JOHN ASBRIDGE

Producer JOHN NATHAN-TURNER

Director CHRIS CLOUGH

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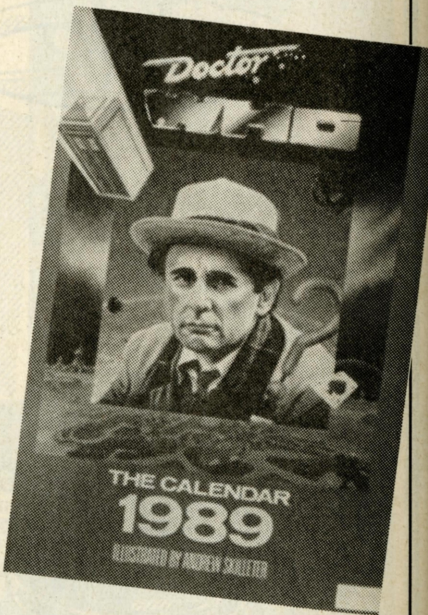
★ CEEFAX SUBTITLES

Back to the future

Doctor Who

Wednesday 7.35pm BBC1

On the 25th anniversary of the first episode of *Doctor Who*, the Doctor, incarnated in the shape of Sylvester McCoy, with companion Ace (Sophie Aldred) face those old foes the Cybermen in the first of a three-part special story.



A large-size 'Doctor Who' calendar for 1989 (£6.95) and an illustrated book 'Doctor Who - Cybermen' (£14.95), by the actor David Banks who plays the Cyber leader, are available from the publishers Who Dares,

Prices include postage.

WHO'S WITH



Over the years 26 companions have done the rounds with the Doctor.

Johnny Black meets some of his fellow travellers in time

Doctor Who
Wednesday 7.35pm BBC1

Doctor Who started a quarter of a century ago, in 1963, the same year as the first Beatles top ten hit, the introduction of the American Express Card and the assassination of President Kennedy.

Saturday tea-time viewers on 23 November 1963 had barely acclimatised themselves to the startling radiophonic theme music, before coming face to face in black and white with Carole Ann Ford playing Susan Foreman, clearly an unusual teenager. She was sitting in a modern classroom, reading a book about the French Revolution and looking very dubious indeed. 'But that's not right!' she said.

As the episode unfolded, we discovered she was the granddaughter of an aged eccentric, played by William Hartnell, who was able to travel through time and space in a machine that looked exactly

like a police box. Since then, we've been hooked.

Carole Ann Ford, an actress from the age of 8, vividly remembers how the role shot her from being a busy and successful actress to being a national star. 'I was 21, playing a 15-year-old, and suddenly doing lots of newspaper interviews. When they asked what qualities were needed for the role, I said you had to be able to scream and run at the same time.'

This description was so apt it soon became a cliché and, as the series progressed, Ford discovered another essential quality. 'You had to be able to say "What do we do next, Doctor?"' hundreds of times with complete conviction!

The intervening years brought not only women's lib but a new realism in television that made those 60s stereotypes untenable.

'The big change in the Doctor's companions came in 1973,' recalls the series's longest-running producer, John Nathan-Turner. 'Sarah Jane Smith, played by Lis Sladen, was much more independently minded. She was fiercely loyal to the Doctor but had her own opinions and always spoke her mind. After Sarah it would have been impossible to go back to the old kind of companions.'

Probably the most independently minded of the Doctor's companions arrived with Louise Jameson's 1977

portrayal of Leela, a primitive alien whose response to any threat was to stick a knife in it. 'I'd done three years at the Royal Shakespeare Company and loads of rep, so my next move had to be into television,' she recalls. 'I auditioned for *The New Avengers* and the hospital series *Angels*, but I was delighted to become Leela because *Doctor Who* had been a Saturday ritual, with baked beans on toast in front of the fire, for my family since it started. I remember thinking I could now afford to build some shelves.'

Jameson was, however, stunned to discover herself rapidly becoming a sex symbol. 'I must have been very naive. It didn't occur to me

that running around in that revealing costume would have that effect on male viewers.'

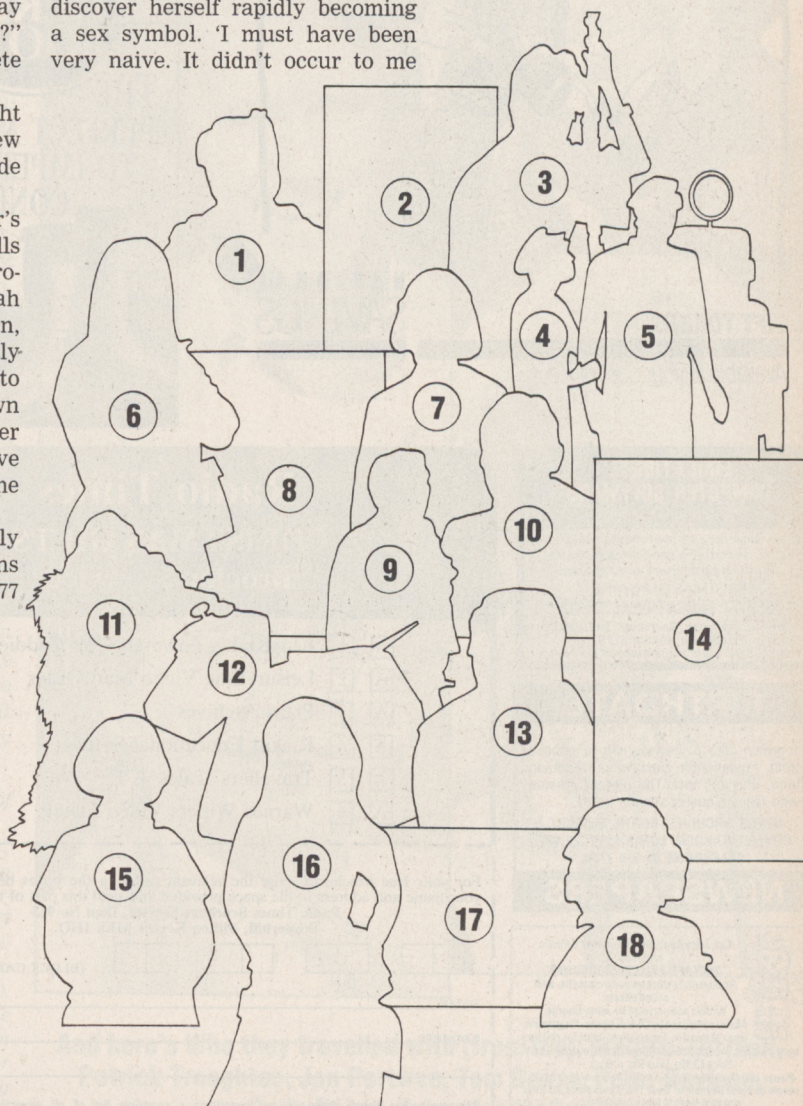
Nathan-Turner feels that Leela's character could not even be attempted now. 'Given the change in attitudes to violence on TV, she simply wouldn't be allowed.'

The Doctor has only once been partnered by a companion who was almost as intelligent as himself. Romana, portrayed by actress Mary Tamm in 1978, was a student Time Lord who often irritated the Doctor by displaying knowledge of techniques that even he had ►115

KEY TO THE PARTNERS IN TIME

1. Sophie Aldred as Ace
2. Elisabeth Sladen as Sarah Jane Smith
3. Janet Fielding as Tegan Jovanka
4. Jackie Lane as Dodo Chaplet
5. Peter Purves as Steven Taylor
6. Jean Marsh as Sara Kingdom
7. Nicola Bryant as Perpugilliam Brown
8. Katy Manning as Jo Grant
9. Frazer Hines as Jamie McCrimmon

10. Mark Strickson as Turlough
11. Mary Tamm as Romana (I)
12. K9
13. Caroline John as Liz Shaw
14. Lalla Ward as Romana (II)
15. Wendy Padbury as Zoe
16. Louise Jameson as Leela
17. Carole Ann Ford as Susan Foreman
18. Bonnie Langford as Mel





◀113 never encountered. As John Nathan-Turner points out, this had many disadvantages.

'Companions were first introduced to give younger viewers someone to identify with, but it quickly became obvious that the "What do we do next, Doctor?" element was essential,' he explains. 'With complex plots, full of scientific notions that viewers might not immediately grasp, the companion could ask questions, then the Doctor could explain it all in detail, so that the viewers knew what was going on.'

'When I took Romana on,' remembers Mary Tamm, 'the idea was that she would become as important as the Doctor – a partner rather than just a companion. That never materialised because the plots required someone to ask questions all the time.'

Disappointed by this stunting of the character's development, she left, but suggested her friend, Lalla Ward, as a replacement. Ward's Romana was deliberately made more vulnerable and less intelligent. She subsequently married the Doctor of that era, Tom Baker, which seemed to suggest that casting her had been the right decision.

Extraordinary as it may seem, this was not the first marriage of a Doctor and companion. Jon Pertwee, the Doctor from 1970-74, was married to Jean Marsh, who had played 'futuristic space agent' Sara Kingdom in the shortest run of any companion, between November 1966 and January 1967.

Often coming from alien worlds, companions frequently sport fanciful names. This was the case with Adric, Nyssa, Kamelion and Turlough but, despite being called Perpugilliam, the doctor's assistant from 1984-86 was from America. Fortunately, she was known as Peri for short.

'I was so convinced that I wouldn't get Peri's part that I just didn't get nervous at the audition,' remembers Nicola Bryant. 'That's probably why I got it.'

Like many companions, she found the role made her face so familiar that she became typecast. 'For about two years after, I could only get parts playing Americans, although I was born in Surrey.'

Carole Ann Ford found a similar problem back in the 60s. 'I tried to break away from countless kooky teenager roles by playing a prostitute in the seedy detective series *Public Eye*. All that happened was that I got hundreds of outraged letters from mothers asking how I dared upset their children so much!'

Louise Jameson, too, found herself playing science-fiction roles and assistants until, five years later, she

became one of the women prisoners in *Tenko*. Now, she appears regularly in *Bergerac*.

It often surprises those who grew up knowing Peter Purves as the presenter of *Blue Peter* to discover that he had a spell as a companion. Purves landed his role after failing an audition to be a giant insect. 'The director took me aside and said I was too good for that sort of thing, and he'd get in touch with me when something better came up. I was heartbroken. I was flat broke and needed the money. I was sure that I'd never hear from him again.'

To his delight, the phone rang some weeks later and Purves became space pilot Steven Taylor from July 65 to June 66. Nowadays, as well as continuing TV work with *Crimewatch Midlands*, Purves runs his own video production company.

The Doctor's current companion, Ace, is played by Sophie Aldred who was barely 1 year old when the series began. In the Carole Ann Ford tradition, Sophie is 26 playing 16. 'They needed someone who looked young for her age and could ride a motorbike,' says Aldred, 'so I was just right. I also do virtually all my own stunts. I've had to jump into a freezing river and beat up a Dalek with my baseball bat.'

'I've always known lots of fans on the show, but they were so enthusiastic they actually put me off watching it.' As a result Sophie didn't even see *Doctor Who* until the Pertwee years. Unfortunately, her rapidly escalating fear of the Cybermen caused her to spend most Saturday tea-times behind the sofa. 'In the end, my mum banned me from watching it. Now I finally have the chance to get my revenge on the Cybermen.' (Wednesday's new story features the monsters who are second only in evil to the Daleks in the estimation of the show's fans.)

Sophie has no fears of being typecast because she's simultaneously appearing as presenter of the BBC1 children's show *Corners*. 'When *Doctor Who* ends I'll be able to prove I can do much more than just run and scream at the same time,' she laughs, 'not that Ace would behave in such a fashion. But just in case, I'll be changing my hairstyle too.' ●

Sylvester McCoy talks about *My Kind of Day* on page 118.

'The *Doctor Who* Anniversary Album', out on 28 November, features music from 25 years of the series, including all versions of the theme: REC 707 (LP); ZCF 707 (cassette); BBCCD 707 (compact disc). From the BBC Radio Collection there is a 'Doctor Who' double cassette (ZBBC 1020). It features two dramatised stories, 'The Genesis of the Daleks', starring Tom Baker, and 'Slipback' – the only 'Doctor Who' story created just for radio – starring Colin Baker.



And here's Who they travelled with (from top): William Hartnell, Patrick Troughton, Jon Pertwee, Tom Baker, Peter Davison, Colin Baker, Sylvester McCoy

My kind of day

Sylvester McCoy

PEOPLE OFTEN say to my wife, 'how do you manage to live with him, he's crazy?' And she tells them, 'he's very different at home, you know.' She's right. I think of myself as a boring little fellow at home.

I can't even say I've got any hobbies. I've only just thought of this, but do you think people have hobbies because they're not happy with the job they're doing? I got very keen on gardening once but then I decided that instead of growing flowers I would rather grow children. Agnes and I have been together for 17 years and Sam is 12 and Joe coming up 11. You can't kick a ball around with them and worry about it flattening the daffodils. So now I've got an adventure playground instead.

It's a big garden we've got, and we're building a tree house at the moment. How high is it? I've no concept of height or time or distance. Some days a mile is a few hundred yards and other days a couple of miles. It's up there somewhere – how high is this ceiling, about 12 feet? – anyway, it's about the right height for spying on the neighbours.

Cycling, yes I still enjoy cycling, but only for getting from A to B. I'm no sportsperson. I once rode from Oxford to Wales to take up a theatre job – it took me a week to get there. I'm much happier moving at the speed of nature rather than technology. That's why I would like to take up yachting, just to be blown along by the wind.

I became an actor so I could stay up late and get up late. So if I've got a day at home at the weekend or during the school holidays it starts around mid-morning when the boys jump on the bed and then maybe we'll go and play on Hampstead Heath.

If I'm performing in the West End, then I can never get to sleep until 4.00 in the morning – the adrenalin is running and I watch videos and eat snacks. So I get up even later and pick the boys up from school and maybe take them to see a show at the Unicorn children's theatre.

Before that, nowadays I've always got scores of *Doctor Who* fan letters to get through. I get a few hundred of them every month and, although someone comes in once a month to give me a hand, I have to deal with most of them myself.

And we eat. Because Agnes comes from a



country village in Holland and never really went to restaurants we go out to eat quite a lot –

'I'm much happier moving at the speed of nature rather than technology'

whenever her shift work as a nurse allows. But we do have people round to us as well. I still have friends I knew 17 years ago but most of my friends now are in the business. It's a pity, but when you make a bit of a name for yourself people outside the business tend to treat you differently, while other actors take you as you are.

Shop talk? Not at all. We all talk about ourselves, as everyone in this business does,

and don't listen to a word anyone else says, so we generally have wonderful time!

Agnes is full of cordon bleu ideas. If I ask for sausage and mash, still my favourite, it always comes out as sausage and mash à la something-or-other. I suppose I could cook it myself. I'm a feminist really, but I'm so lazy.

That's when I'm not learning lines. I had a Beckett part to learn last week and *Doctor Who* scripts come in regularly for five months in the year. Everything stops then. I give up eating.

Sam and Joe never watched *Doctor Who* until I

The real McCoy: Sylvester swaps his Tardis for a tree house

was in it and they are not mightily impressed. One of the advantages of living in Hampstead is that there are lots of young people around whose parents are reporters and actors and so on, so none of them is that bothered. If I'm on tour and the boys are asked who their father is they usually just point to the telephone and say, 'that's him!'

I'm 45 now, or am I 43? I've forgotten the past few years. My childhood feels as though it belonged to another child – not to myself. I was a hippy in the 60s. Then I worked in the City, which was the most boring bit. And then I was asked to be an actor. Four lives down, five to go. I'm a Leo, you know, so that makes me a cat, doesn't it? The days when I stuck ferrets down my trousers, blew up bombs on my chest and taught a whole Indonesian village how to play the spoons are over, but I've never grown up. Agnes always says I'm loved by animals and children and I'm sure that's because I'm really still a child. ●

Sylvester McCoy can be seen in *Doctor Who* (Wednesday BBC1).

Next week: Sue MacGregor

7.35-8.00pm

Doctor Who

starring **Sylvester McCoy**
in *Silver Nemesis*

by KEVIN CLARKE

Second episode of the three-part 25th anniversary special. The Doctor and Ace are confronting a Jacobean sorceress, renegade Nazis and a very special foe from the past.

De FloresANTON DIFFRING

AceSOPHIE ALDRED

The Doctor .SYLVESTER MCCOY

Cyber LeaderDAVID BANKS

KarlMETIN YENAL

Cyber Lieutenant...MARK HARDY

Lady Peinforte .FIONA WALKER

Richard.....GERARD MURPHY

First skinhead .CHRIS CHERING

Second skinhead

SYMOND LAWES

First CybermanBRIAN ORRELL

Stunt arrangers

PAUL HEASMAN, NICK GILLARD

Incidental music KEFF MCCULLOCH

Make-up designer DORKA NIERADZIK

Script editor ANDREW CARTMEL

Designer JOHN ASBRIDGE

Producer JOHN NATHAN-TURNER

Director CHRIS CLOUGH



CEEFAX SUBTITLES

Doctor Who's winter sunshine!

May I congratulate the team who produced the *Doctor Who* story *Remembrance of the Daleks* (5-26 October BBC1) and in particular the writer Ben Aaronovitch and script editor Andrew Cartmel who have returned some of the mystery to the central figure...

There was one small fault, a minor mistake. Sunlight was streaming through the windows when, in episode two, Ace turned on the television to hear that it was Saturday 5.15pm 1963, and *Doctor Who* was about to begin. All transmissions of the programme in 1963 began after dark as the series didn't start until November...

Ian Duerden

Caersws, Powys

Russian connection?

With regard to A. Brooke's letter (*Radio Times* 22-28 October), since the Daleks come from far away I always thought the

name came straight from the Russian word *daleko*, which means far.

J. T. Greaves

London SE9

7.35-8.00pm

Doctor Who

starring **Sylvester McCoy**
in *Silver Nemesis*

by KEVIN CLARKE.

The final episode of this
special three-part silver
anniversary adventure.

Ace is in a battle to the
death with the Cyberman
while the Doctor tries to
restore Nemesis to
where it belongs . . .

The Doctor .SYLVESTER MCCOY

AceSOPHIE ALDRED

Richard.....GERARD MURPHY

Lady Peinforte .FIONA WALKER

Cyber Lieutenant

MARK HARDY

De FloresANTON DIFFRING

KarlMETIN YENAL

Cyber leaderDAVID BANKS

Cyberman.....BRIAN ORRELL

Mrs Remington ..DOLORES GRAY

Incidental music KEFF MCCULLOCH

Visual effects designer


PERRY BRAHAN

Script editor ANDREW CARTMEL

Designer JOHN ASBRIDGE

Producer JOHN NATHAN-TURNER

Director CHRIS CLOUGH

 CEEFAX SUBTITLES